

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 03637 031652Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 IO-13 TRSE-00 /091 W  
-----009025 040138Z /62

R 031524Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5690  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 3637

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, GR, TU, UR  
SUBJ: REACTION TO ANKARA VISIT OF SOVIET CHIEF OF STAFF

REF: (A) ATHENS 3536 (B) ANKARA 3321

1. MARSHAL NIKOLAI OGARKOV'S RECENT REMARKS ABOUT THE SOVIET UNION'S WISH TO COOPERATE MILITARILY WITH TURKEY (REFTEL B) HAVE BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A WIDESPREAD GREEK IMPRESSION THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS OFFERED TO BECOME A MAJOR ARMS SUPPLIER TO TURKEY. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOG, TAKING ITS LEAD FROM THE CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT, IS SUMMONING SOVIET AMBASSADOR OUDALSTOV TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO SEEK FURTHER CLARIFICATION REGARDING OGARKOV'S REMARKS. THE GOG, THROUGH ITS TELEVISION AND RADIO OUTLETS AND THE PRO-GOVERNMENT PRESS, IS ALSO SPOTLIGHTING THE OGARKOV AFFAIR FOR GREEK PUBLIC OPINION.

2. OPPOSITION LEADER ANDREAS PAPANDREOU ISSUED A STATEMENT IN WHICH HE ALSO TOOK THE SOVIET UNION TO TASK AND EXPRESSED DOUBTS ON THE SOVIET UNION'S  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ATHENS 03637 031652Z

SUBSEQUENT DENIAL OF ITS INTENTION TO SUPPLY ARMS TO TURKEY. HOWEVER, PAPANDREOU'S HEAVIEST SALVO WAS RESERVED FOR THE GOG'S FOREIGN POLICY, WHICH, HE IMPLIED, WAS ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SOVIET UNION'S CULTIVATION OF TURKEY AT THE EXPENSE OF GREECE. PAPANDREOU ASSERTED THAT THE GOG'S FEALTY TO THE WEST HAS NOT ONLY MADE GREECE AN AMERICAN DOOR

MAT, BUT THAT IT ALSO ALIENATED THE COUNTRY FROM THE SOVIET UNION. "GREECE", HE SAID, "HAS NEVER BEEN SO ISOLATED INTERNATIONALLY AS IT IS TODAY." (THE GOG RESPONDED TO THIS CHARGE BY POINTING TO HIGH LEVEL VISITS BETWEEN GREECE AND WARSAW PACT MEMBERS AS WELL AS PAPALIGOURAS' PROGRAMMED VISIT TO MOSCOW LATER THIS YEAR.)

3. THE PRESS HAS HAD A FIELD DAY WITH THIS ISSUE. CONDEMNATION OF THE SOVIET IS WIDESPREAD, INCLUDING NEWSPAPERS WHICH ARE USUALLY MOST UNFRIENDLY TO THE UNITED STATES. THE EXCEPTION IS THE MOSCOW-LINE COMMUNIST PARTY WHICH CONTINUES LOYALLY TO DEFEND THE USSR AND TO CRITICIZE PAPANDREAOU FOR HIS REMARKS.

5. COMMENT: THUS FAR, THIS ISSUE HAS BEEN A FORTUNATE ONE FOR THE UNITED STATES. MANY INFORMED GREEKS HAVE LONG BEEN CONVINCED THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS INCLINED TO FAVOR TURKEY OVER GREECE. BUT NOW THAT OPINION HAS BEEN REINFORCED. AT THE SAME TIME, A DEEPSEATED GREEK ARGUMENT -- THAT TURKEY HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO REMAIN A FAITHFUL ALLY OF THE UNITED STATES -- HAS BEEN DEALT A BLOW. NEVERTHELESS, GREEK ANGER, DISAPPOINTMENT AND BITTERNESS DIRECTED AT THE UNITED STATES OVER THE EMBARGO ISSUE REMAINS UNDIMINISHED DESPITE THIS OUTBURST OF ANTI-SOVIET FEELING.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03     ATHENS 03637 031652Z

MCCLSOKEY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY VISITS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978ATHENS03637  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780189-0724  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** ATHENS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t197805100/aaaadgvx.tel  
**Line Count:** 95  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 592b4693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 ATHENS 3536, 78 ANKARA 3321  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2509863  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REACTION TO ANKARA VISIT OF SOVIET CHIEF OF STAFF  
**TAGS:** PEPR, GR, TU, UR, (OGARKOV, NIKOLAI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/592b4693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014